

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 11321 240820Z
ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NEA-07 EUR-08 SSO-00 CIAE-00
NSCE-00 IO-06 INR-05 INRE-00 SP-02 /047 W
-----009625 240901Z /13S

O R 240731Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6050
INFO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T TEHRAN 11321

LIMDIS

FOR SECRETARY AND DR BRZEZINSKI

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT IR
SUBJ: GOI VIEW OF SITUATION IN HORN OF AFRICA

1. FONMIN KHALATBARY CALLED ME TO FONMINISTRY MORNING DEC 24 TO DISCUSS SITUATION IN HORN OF AFRICA. HE SAID IRAN WAS PARTICULARLY DISTURBED BY SOVIET AND SATELLITE BUILD-UP IN ETHIOPIA. HIS REPORTS INDICATED THAT SOVIET, EAST GERMAN AND CUBAN PILOTS WERE STREAMING INTO ADDIS AND THAT NEW SOVIET EQUIPMENT WAS BEING READIED FOR SERVICE. HE ANTICIPATED MAJOR ETHIOPIAN OFFENSIVE WHEN RAINY SEASON ENDED, NOT ONLY AGAINST OGADEN AND SOMALIA, BUT POSSIBLY ALSO AGAINST DJIBOUTI. HE ASSUMED THAT MERCENARIES (HE PLACED CUBANS AT 1200) WOULD HANDLE THE SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT.

2. KHALATBARY SAID THAT SOMALIAN PRES SIAD BARRE WOULD ARRIVE IN TEHRAN DEC 27 AND LEAVE DEC 29. SINCE BARRE KNEW THERE WAS LITTLE ASSISTANCE IRAN COULD PROVIDE ON ITS OWN, HE ASSURED PRIMARY PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT TO TEHRAN WAS TO PERSUADE SHAH TO LEAN ON
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PRES CARTER FOR GREATER ASSISTANCE. HE THEREFORE ASKED THAT I ALERT THE PRES TO PROSPECT THAT SHAH WOULD RAISE HORN OF AFRICA WITH HIM.

3. KHALATBARY WENT ON TO SAY THAT IRAN ALSO WULD APPRECIATE SOME INDICATION FROM PRES CONCERNING US INTENTIONS WITH RESPECT HORN OF AFRICA. IRAN IS CONVINCED THAT OAU IS UNABLE TO DO

ANYTHING IN CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES AND THAT SOVIETS ARE THE
PRINCIPAL ELEMENT WHICH MUST BE DEALT WITH. HE THEREFORE EXPRESSED
HOPE THAT PRES WOULD BE ABLE PROVIDE SHAH WITH SOME
INSIGHTS INTO US THINKING ABOUT HOW TO DEAL WITH SOVIETS IN THIS
REGION.
SULLIVAN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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